

“They have chosen cunning instead of belief. Their prison is only in their minds, yet they are in that prison; and so afraid of being taken in that they cannot be taken out.”

· C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle



Two Big Clarity Problems:



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1. What counts as an earthly good?

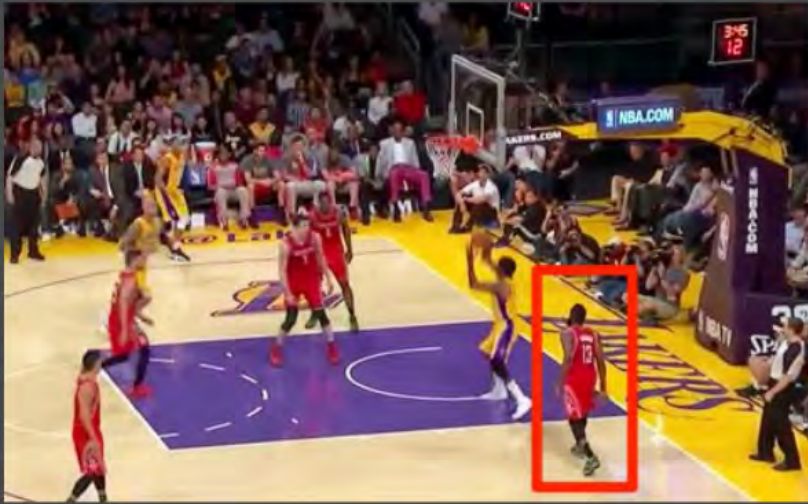


2. What does Christian Faith mean by "heavenly minded"?

Heavenly Mindedness is Christ Mindedness

Colossians 2:6-7 6

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.



Houston Rockets:
#2 offense, #25 Defense = not a contender.



You need both.



build the right muscles.

Developing the Mind of Christ is offensive and Defensive

Offense:

Colossians 2:6-7 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Defense:

Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

The mind of Christ has to be developed

5 THINGS THAT HAPPEN (right now) WHEN GOD REDEEMS US

1. UNION

We have been given faith in Christ.

Colossians 2:9-10

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given faith in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

2. SANCTIFICATION

We have been morally freed from our domination.

Colossians 2:11

In him you were also circumcised in the putting off of the sinful nature. 11 Or the flesh was with its desires torn down by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ.

3. REGENERATION

We have been given new life - life from death.

Colossians 2:12-13

Having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the shadow of death because of your sinful nature. 14 But your precious God raised you. 15 Some manuscripts (a) also with Christ.

4. JUSTIFICATION

We forgive our sins - canceled our "moral record."

Colossians 2:13-14

He forgave all our sins, 14 having canceled the whole code with its regulations. This was against us and that stood opposed to us. He took it away, nailing it to the cross.

5. LIBERATION

We defeated our enemy.

Colossians 2:15

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. 15 Or them at their

5 THINGS THAT HAPPEN (right now) WHEN GOD REDEEMS US

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We have been given fullness from fullness.

Colossians 2:9-10

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

2. SANCTIFICATION

We have been surgically freed from sin's domination.

Colossians 2:11

In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, ^{11 Or the flesh} not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ,

3. REGENERATION

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Colossians 2:12-13

having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, ^{13 Or your flesh} God made you ^{13 Some manuscripts us} alive with Christ.

4. JUSTIFICATION

He forgave our sins- canceled our felony record.

Colossians 2:13-14

He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

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the mind of Christ has to be defended

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Human Traditions

and

Basic Principles

Colossians 2:16-17

Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. 17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

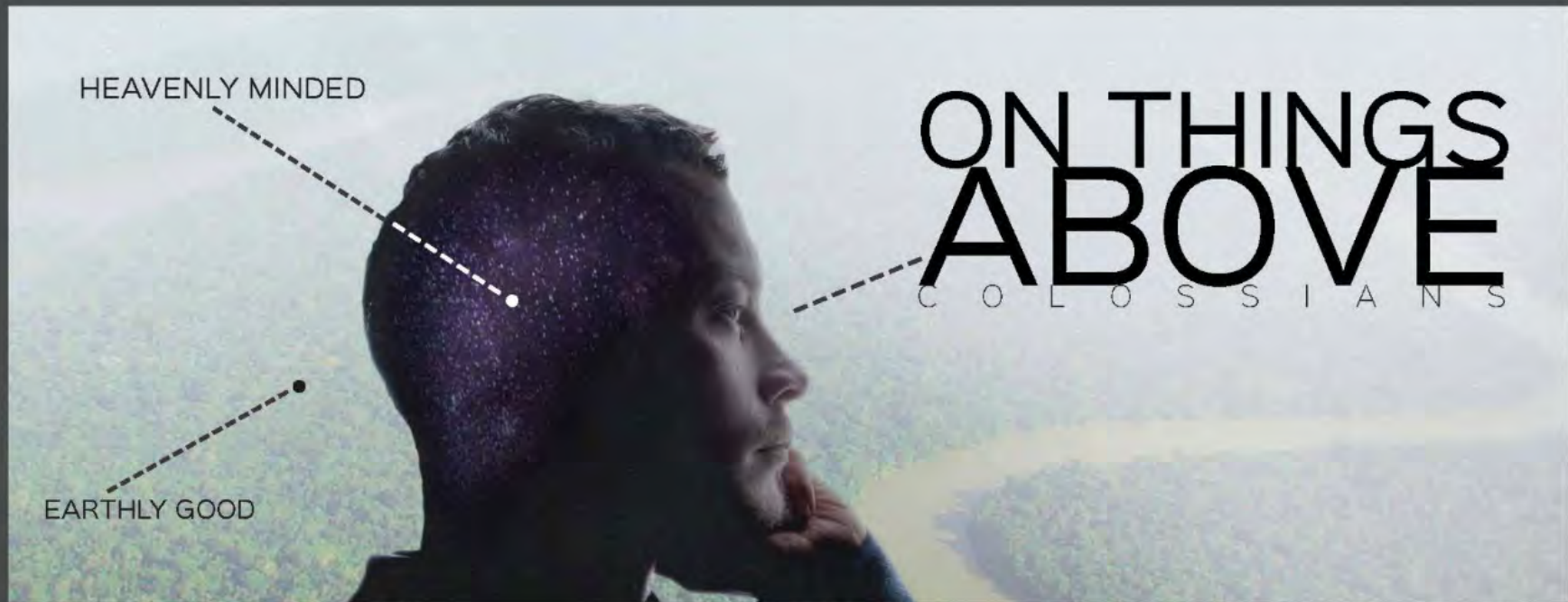
Colossians 2:20-23

Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: 21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22 These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. 23 Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

False tactics:

1. Self-imposed Worship
2. False Humility
3. Untethered Mysticism
4. Spiritual Disciplines without Gospel





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